

## Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 /008 W

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O 082010Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3400

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FOR INR - DANIEL FENDRICK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, BL

SUBJ: MINING SECTOR STUDY BY JAMES HENDERSEN

REF: FENDRICK TO LANDBERG LETTER OF DECEMBER 2, 1976

1. MR HENDERSEN HAS COMPLETED FINAL DRAFT ON "THE SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ROLE OF THE BOLIVIAN MINING INDUSTRY." IT IS AN EXCELLENT WORK WITH A WEALTH OF DETAIL ON THE INDUSTRY, THE COMPANIES, THEIR OWNERS, THEIR PRODUCTION, AND THEIR IMPORTANCE - EXACTLY WHAT WE HAD WANTED - WITH A CLASSIFIED SUPPLEMENT. HOWEVER, AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, WE BELIEVE THAT THE DETAILED INFORMATION IN THE REPORT, IF IT GOT INTO THE WRONG HANDS, COULD BE USED AGAINST THE PRIVATE MINERS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. MANY BOLIVIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THE MEDIUM MINING SECTOR, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF ITS RAPID GROWTH IN RECENT YEARS AND THE PROMINENCE OF SAME WEALTHY MINERS, IS BOUND TO BE A FUTURE AND MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUE IN BOLIVIA. THE HENDERSEN REPORT PINPOINTS THE MAJOR FIGURES, AND THE SOURCES OF THEIR WEALTH. ITS PUBLICATION COULD BE ATTRIBUTED AS THE BASIS FOR A POLITICAL ATTACK ON THE MEDIUM MINING SECTOR, FOR WHICH WE WOULD BE BLAMED BY THE MINERS THEMSELVES AND THE GOB. CONSEQUENTLY, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE ENTIRE HENDERSEN REPORT SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED.

2. THE ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO REMOVE MUCH OF THE DETAILS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT WHICH COULD BE MISUSED. THIS WOULD WATER-DOWN CONSIDERABLY THE REPORT'S USEFULNESS TO THE USG. SINCE THE REPORT WAS MEANT TO BE FOR INTERNAL USE IN ANY EVENT, WE BELIEVE  
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THE BEST SOLUTION IS TO LEAVE THE REPORT INTACT AND CLASSIFY IT.

3. DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE AND APPROPRIATE CHANGE IN HENDERSEN'S  
CONTRACT IS THEREFORE REQUESTED. HENDERSEN PLANS DEPART DEC 9,  
THE THEREFORE REQUEST ANSWER ASAP.  
STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLICATIONS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, MINING INDUSTRY, POLITICAL SITUATION, INFORMATION CONTROL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LAPAZ09757  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760454-0009  
**From:** LA PAZ  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 66  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION INR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <12 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINING SECTOR STUDY BY JAMES HENDERSEN  
**TAGS:** PINR, BL, US, (HENDERSON, JAMES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006